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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC.

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202-418-0513

FCC HOLDS 2002 SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING SEMINAR

Washington - The Federal Communications Commission's Office of Communications Business Opportunities (OCBO) held a seminar at the commission today on small business financing featuring venture capitalists, private capital fund representatives, and government representatives from the FCC, Small Business Administration, Department of Commerce, and Department of Agriculture discussing issues affecting small, minority- and women-owned communications businesses.

OCBO Acting Director Carolyn Fleming Williams said she was gratified at the turnout and enthusiasm of the participants and speakers, and told participants, "Today we hope that you will learn more about the broad array of opportunities available to you to finance your business, that you will make connections with people who will prove invaluable to your business success, and that, at the end of the day, you'll be better informed and armed with innovative financing strategies to help meet the challenges you face as a small business in the communications industry."

The panelists provided attendees with extensive materials for follow-up on the topics discussed. Written materials distributed at the seminar are available from the Commission's copy contractor, Qualex International, Portals II Building,CY-B402, 445 12th Street. S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554, (202) 863-2893

Videotapes of the seminar are available from the FCC's video contractor, In Focus, (703) 834-1470.

For general information about the seminar contact Karen M. Beverly of the Office of Communications Business Opportunities, (202) 418-0993, kbeverly@fcc.gov. OCBO's website is www.fcc.gov/ocbo.